

MMR_0029 Francis T. Hughes

No. 29—November 6, 1969 To:
Francis T. Hughes, MMR No. 29
7351 Hawthorne Lane
Indianapolis, Indiana 46250



FRANK HUGHES, MMR

Frank Hughes, MMR, is serving second term as Central V.P. Served as Asst. Superintendent Central Indiana Division 1964-66, Superintendent CID 1966, Division Representative Exec. Council MWR 1966-68, Spring Convention Chairman MWR 1966, Director, Vice President and President MWR 1969-70, CID "Rusty Spike" Editor 1967-71.

Frank Hughes should be well known in the hobby for his many accomplishments, "Best of Show" Awards, years of service and driving force behind NMRA's much needed re-organization for which he serves as Chairman of the

special advisory committee to our President.

The interesting part of the story of Frank Hughes lies beneath all of his accomplishments wherein he comes through loud and clear as a man dedicated to the service of his fellow man within the hobby. His only desire for personal gain seems to be in friendships and enjoyment of the hobby. His boyhood ambition, like that of many of us, was to be a railroad engineer and like many of his era—became proficient in the art of "liberating" coal from passing trains to help keep the home fires burning. His modeling interests passed through a period of model airplanes and into a humble beginning in model railroading—one car kit and section of rail at a time, using the "Armstrong" system of motive power. He remembers well his first model—a paper-sided Megow gondola—and his mother's help in saving coffee grounds to be dyed and used for ballast. From this, Frank is now settled in his new home with "self designed" basement which houses a 9'x19' pike sporting 150' of hand-lain rail and hand-made turnouts. Reports have it that the scenery is about 1/3 completed. Meanwhile, Frank modestly refers to his "small pike" and gives his all for the betterment of the hobby.

Through his efforts, NMRA should fare well in the better organization department since Frank is more interested in the "game" than the "name" of his position.



in many capacities before being elected to the Presidency.

Frank's 9½ by 19' HO model railroad, The Mehoopany, Tunkhannock & Shickshinny RR is still under construction. A branch line operation with passing sidings it is designed for four man operation and features 48 scratch built turnouts, over 40 sq. ft. of scenery with rolling hills, fertile valleys and thousands of trees.

An Indianapolis insurance executive Frank is 44 years old, married with five future railroaders in the fold.